

About Plays and Players

By BIDE DUDLEY

JOHN D. WILLIAMS will place in rehearsal next week a comedy called "Sleeping Partners," which ran for several months at the Savoy Theatre, London, with Seymour Hicks in the principal role. In the American production Henry B. Warner will be starred and Irene Bordino will have the only female part. The comedy is a short-act piece. The two other important roles will be taken by Guy Fawcett and Arthur Lewis. The title is the English equivalent of the American phrase "Silent Partners." It was written by Sacha Guitry under the title of "Faisons un Reve." In Paris the play had a long run, with Mr. Guitry in the role Mr. Warner will play here.

BY WAY OF DIVERSION.
Our Billy's in the infantry; he's over there in France. For years he'd fantasied soldier life, and so he grabbed the chance. He writes us that he's seen things that thrill him 'cause they're new. We're worried just a little as he's learned to parley voo. He says that soup ain't soup at all; it's got some funny name—that everything in France is changed an' nothin' is the same. Then spelt it! (Gee! it's all mixed up an' hard to handle too. But Billy's got the hang of it, an' he can parley voo. Now, Ma an' me ain't kickin' much 'bout that new talk he's learned. While he's away it's all O. K. so far as we're concerned. But we'll not stand no foreign style when this big war is through. When Bill comes home he'll have to can that high-toned parley voo.

HE HAD BAD PIPES.
Ada Ames, secretary to H. H. Frazer, theatrical producer and owner of the Boston Red Sox baseball team, was at her desk yesterday reading a letter from a handsome soldier in France, when the telephone rang. "Hello!" said a man's voice. "Vy don't you oom oop? My pipes is very bad."
"Your pipes?" replied Miss Ames. "Well, see a throat specialist. This is Red Sox headquarters."
She hung up the receiver and resumed the reading of the letter. Just as she reached the "He good, dearie" finish, the phone tinkled again.
"Say, how 'bout my pipes?" shouted the same voice.
"Listen, mister!" said Miss Ames. "I told you this was Red Sox headquarters."
"I want a plumber!" yelled the man. "I don't want no clothing!"
As she gently placed the receiver where it suspends when not in use, Miss Ames dreamily remarked:
"Central is completely unfurnished upstairs."

SHE HEARD HER SONG.
Rachel Story, who lives in Pleasantville, N. Y., wrote a song called "The Little Boy That Never Was" recently and it was published by Meyer Cohen. Miss Story had never heard it sung since it came off the press. Yesterday Mr. Cohen received a letter from her saying she was ill in bed and expressing a wish to hear the song. Cara Roma, who wrote "Love Me and the World is Mine," as well as numerous other successes, was in the Cohen office and was shown the letter.
"I'll fix that," said Miss Roma. Fifteen minutes later she was singing "The Little Boy Who Never Was" over the long-distance telephone into the ear of the sick woman. At its conclusion a man's voice came in on the wire.
"You're a better doctor than I am, Miss Roma," it said.

SMITH DID WELL.
It will H. Smith went to the army he could be making thousands of dollars staging theatrical productions. It was he who put on "Yip Yip Yaphank." When Smith went to Camp Upton as a private he took along a letter from Gus Hill, for whom he had been writing lyrics, to George Miller, manager of the Liberty Theatre there. It resulted in his being assigned to stage the "The Success of that venture is now history. Numerous managers would like to put Smith to work, but he has other duties to perform.
"I've got to help stage a big show in Berlin," he says.

GOSSIP.
Loney Haskell will begin uplifting "Loudville" again Monday.
Blanche Yurka has been added to Jane Cow's support in "Information, Please!"
At the dinner tendered Hamish MacArthur by his ex-boss, S. L. Rothapel, Thursday night Hamish showed he could tell time with his new wrist watch in six different ways.
"Maytime" isn't going into Maxine Elliott's Theatre after all. It will be moved back to the Broadhurst Monday night. "He Didn't Want to Do It" will go to Boston.
The Fifth Avenue Theatre will have an animated war song contest during the week of Sept. 16. Manager Quaid plans to have the audience decide which songs win. The entry list is long.
Hallard MacDonald is to put on a musical show for the Quartermaster's Department in Washington. The music is being written by Nat Osbourne. Dan Dody will stage the numbers.

VION GREATLY PLEASED.
Joe Vion, ahead of Mary Ryan in "The Little Teacher," is a very proud man. Forty-eight years ago the first battle between the Germans and the French took place at Vionville, France. Joe just heard of it yesterday. He'd like to state that his relatives must have come from Vionville. Also, that Miss Ryan will be at the Standard Theatre next week.

A THOUGHT FOR TO-DAY.
Abner Wallace of Kickapoo, Kan., says he was fifty years old before he discovered that people often pay real money for dogs.

FOOLISHMENT.
There was a young woman named Mae, Whose name was particularly queer; She'd said she'd get a woodpile, Then she off came chunder, And ended all over the place.

FROM THE CHESTNUT TREE.
"How did you get your wood cut?"
"A tramp came along. I enticed him to the woodpile and told him this joke."
"Yes!"
And he laughed until he split.

LITTLE MARY MIXUP



'Twas the Waves That Made Her Waver!

LEAVE IT TO MARY



THE BIG LITTLE FAMILY



Now We Know Why They Call It "Phonetic" Spelling!

FOUL-BALLS.

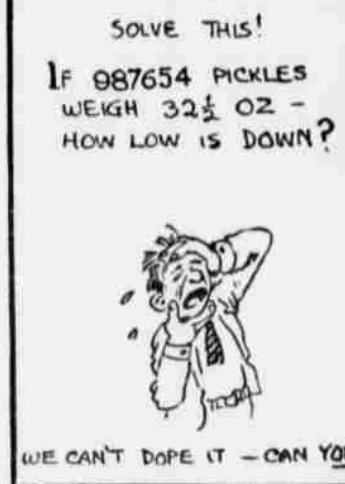


JOE'S CAR



He's Full of Trouble, Joe—Bail Him Out!

LITTLE PROBLEMS FOR BIG THINKERS



SOMEWHERE IN NEW YORK

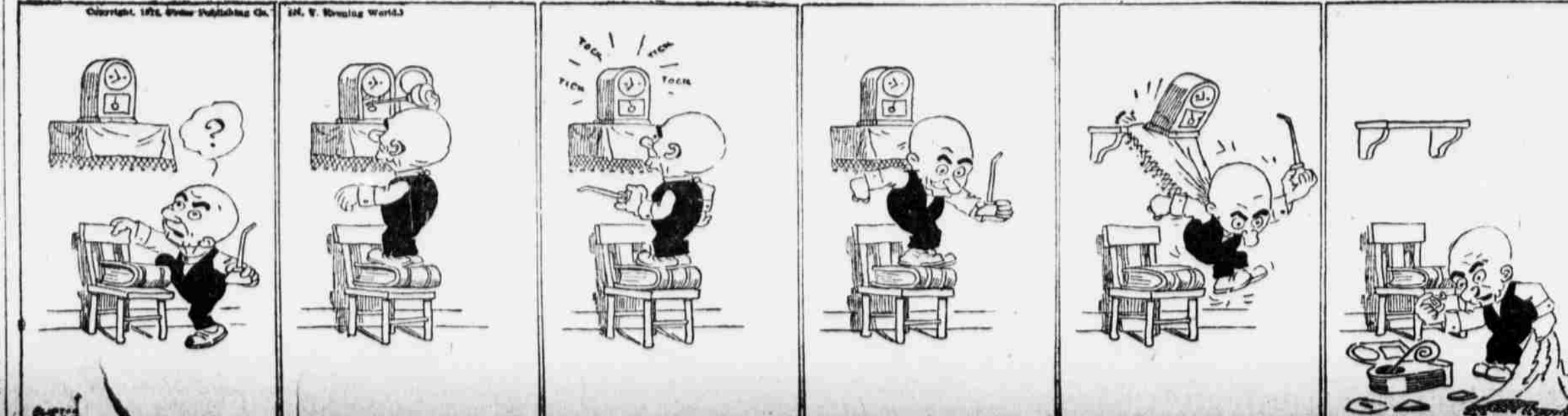


A "Sample Line" of "Footwear"!

Our Two Inch Book Shelf



GRINDSTONE GEORGE



He Made the Clock "Strike" All Right!

'Nobody'

